

For release
**HISTORIC DOWNTOWN CHURCH TO BE SCENE OF 9/11
COMMEMORATION CONCERT**

The Spirit of Orthodoxy Choir, the premier East Coast interpreters of Orthodox Christian liturgical music, will present "From Death to Life – Orthodox Liturgical Music of Remembrance and Hope" at Sts. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church, 109 Grand Street, Jersey City, on Sunday, September 11, at 4:30pm. The choir's director is the Russian-born conductor, composer, and teacher, Aleksei V. Shipovalnikov.

"Sts. Peter and Paul is the closest Orthodox church to the site of the tragedy," says Mr. Shipovalnikov, "so it makes sense to mark this tragic anniversary here." A portion of the concert's proceeds will benefit the Jersey City Firefighters' Distress Fund.

Located in the historic neighborhood of Paulus Hook, Sts. Peter and Paul church was built in 1859 as The First Dutch Reformed parish. In 1907, as the city's population changed, immigrants from the Austro-Hungarian and Russian Empires purchased the building and founded an Eastern Orthodox parish. They added the distinctive onion domes that dominate the local skyline. The parish, now led by Archpriest Joseph Lickwar, is engaged in an extensive structural restoration program funded in part by the New Jersey Historic Trust, enabling restoration of the church's domes and its beautiful stained glass windows.

The Spirit of Orthodoxy Choir is headquartered at Sts. Peter and Paul Church and has presented concerts extensively in the tri-state area, garnering enthusiastic reviews for its professional quality performances. They have produced three CD's, which will be available at the concert. Their singing is *a cappella* (without instrumental accompaniment) and features the music of the various Orthodox traditions with emphasis on liturgical music of Russian Orthodoxy. The choir sings chiefly in the English language. Sunday's concert will include music of John Tavener, Pavel Chesnokov, Sergei Rachmaninoff, and others.

Tickets are \$10.00 and will be available at the door, on-line at www.spiritoforthodoxy.com or by calling 973-786-5149 or 516-437-5760.

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